

III. REMARKS

As an initial matter, with the above amendment to the abstract, the abstract has been amended to remove “comprising” and add “including”.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner’s determination that claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 10-14 contain allowable subject matter (Office Action, dated December 4, 2008, at 2, lines 20-21).

Claims 15 and 16 have been cancelled without prejudice.

A. The Rejections

Claims 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as anticipated by DE 10128189 A1, accompanied by an English machine translation thereof.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner’s rejections and request reconsideration of the above-captioned application for the following reason.

B. Applicants’ Arguments

Applicants cancelled claims 15 and 16. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections regarding claims 15 and 16 in the outstanding Office Action are respectfully requested in the view of the present amendment.

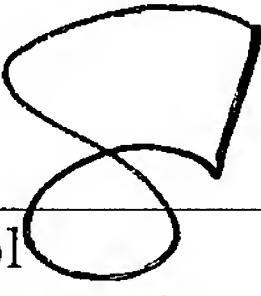
IV. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-captioned application is in condition for allowance and a prompt notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Questions are welcomed by the below-signed attorney for Applicants.

Respectfully submitted,

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